

GOV DOC

A

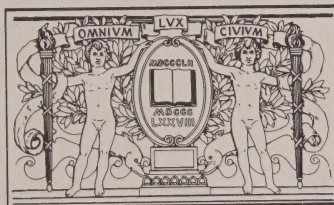
CEC

83/2

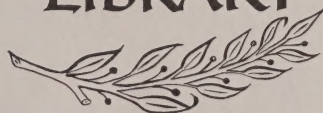
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 9999 10106 505 8



BOSTON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



98600052

Election Fact Sheet on:

THE BOSTON SCHOOL BUDGET

prepared by Citywide Educational Coalition in cooperation with the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce

Q. HOW MUCH DO THE SCHOOLS REALLY COST?

- A. The school system next year will spend \$229.7M in educating its students. The city pays all of this, but it gets reimbursed for about \$90M of these expenses from the State.

Besides these expenses, the schools also run \$30M worth of programs that are funded totally by the State and the federal government: Chapter 1(Title 1) Reading, school lunches, and many programs with universities, museums, and businesses.

Of the \$21.47 per \$1000 city tax assessment, \$9.23 of it is levied for the schools, and the schools employ 8,000 of the city's 21,500 employees.

Q. WHERE DOES IT ALL GO?

- A. How much? \$229.7M

For how many?

students	56,349*
teachers	3,599
principals & assistants	342
central administrators	201
district administrators	19
schools	127

* projected enrollment, 12/83

For what?

regular education	\$69.5M
special education	\$45.4M
heat, custodians, etc	\$34.7M
employee benefits	\$20.2M
transportation	\$12.4M
other: libraries, coaches, etc.	\$ 9.7M
bilingual education	\$ 9.2M
principals & assistants	\$ 8.1M
central administration	\$ 6.9M
other costs: adult ed., CPC	\$ 6.0M
vocational education	\$ 4.4M
district administration	\$.8M
held in reserve	\$ 2.4M
TOTAL	\$229.7M

Q. WHAT IS THE PER PUPIL COST?

- A. If you divide the present BPS budget by the enrollment, you get:

\$229,700,000 ÷ 56,349 students = \$4,076 per pupil.

But you get a clearer picture of the costs if you break it down:

Anticipated enrollment:

Approximate costs:

38,680 regular education students at	\$ 3,374 per student
6,119 bilingual students at	\$ 3,691 per student
7,241 special education students (.1, .2, .3) at	\$ 4,084 per student
3,256 special education students (.4) at	\$ 7,442 per student
1,003 special education students (.5) at	\$16,088 per student**
50 special education students (.6) at	\$35,584 per student**

** day students or residents at schools outside the system

Q. IS THERE "FAT" IN THE BUDGET?

- A.** There may not be fat in the sense of people collecting paychecks who do nothing. There are many areas, however, that should be thoroughly studied, including:

- the number of central administrators
- the number of districts
- the number of schools
- management of supplies
- assistant principal staffing ratios
- the number of .4 special needs students
- the number and role of special ed. ETLs (Evaluation Team Leaders)
- the management of custodians

Q. DO THE SCHOOLS NEED MORE MONEY?

- A.** If the citizens of Boston want truly excellent schools, yes. Even if all the areas above were examined carefully and efficiencies brought about, the Boston Public Schools are so far behind that only extraordinary measures will bring them to excellence.

What extraordinary measures? Some possibilities:

- a first rate, full day nursery school and kindergarten program
- small class sizes, 20 and under
- retraining and support programs for teachers
- up-to-date guidance counselors, and enough to really help students
- required one-on-one parent teacher conferences
- and, most important, a strong and inspiring principal in each school

ASK THE CANDIDATES:

- 1) DO THE SCHOOLS NEED MORE MONEY, AND IF SO, WHERE WOULD YOU GET IT?
 - 2) WHICH PROGRAMS WOULD YOU ELIMINATE OR RESTORE?
 - 3) SHOULD EACH SCHOOL MANAGE ITS OWN BUDGET?
-

Fact Sheets Done By:

CWEC
Citywide Educational Coalition
37 Temple Place, #523
Boston, MA 02111

(617) 542-2835

With Funding From:

Bank of Boston
Bank of New England
Boston Globe
Cox Charitable Trust
Hyams Trust

New England
Telephone
Shawmut Bank
State Street Bank
Symmons Industries

